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A C C O U N T

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OF AN

K. Peat (P.)

A R R E S T,

MADE AT

DACCA, IN B E N G A L,

UNDER SANCTION OF

THE BRITISH SUPREME COURT,

AND A

RESCUE MADE BY THE HEAD FOUZDAR OF THE PLACE,

WITH AN

INTRODUCTORY LETTER, SOME OFFICIAL PAPERS,

AND

A BRIEF GLOSSARY ADAPTED TO THE NARRATIVE.

L O N D O N :

Printed for G. KEARSLEY, No. 40, Year Sergeants Inn, Fleet-street.

M DCC LXXI.

*A short account of this transaction has been very errone-
ously stated and printed lately in one of the Daily
Papers.*

A short account of this translation has been very
early stated and printed lately in one of the Daily
Papers.

L E T T E R

FROM THE

DEPUTY SHERIFF of *DACCA*,

To a friend in London, relative to the jurisdiction of
Bengal, and introductory to the following Narrative.

Dacca, in Bengal, Feb. 17, 1778,

I R,

I PRESUME, before you will have received this, you will have heard of the affair in which I was concerned, at this place, as Deputy Sheriff, in making an arrest on a native called Jaggonaut Dewan; the violent opposition made to the arrest, and of my having, in defence of my life, been under the necessity of shooting one of the people who attempted the rescue. The man, however, did not die of the wound. But, as the history of the transaction has made a little noise in this part of the world, I think you will like to know it; and, therefore, I herewith take the liberty to trouble you with an account of it in a copy of a narrative of my case, which I wrote for my Counsel's instructions for my defence, in an action now depending in the Supreme Court against me, brought by the man whose house the defendant Jaggonaut was arrested in, and who gave orders

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for the rescue. The action is brought against me and the principal Bailiff who made the arrest, and who was named in the warrant as the Sheriff's Bailiff. The Plaintiff has no motive in pursuing the action, but the pleasing the gentlemen who, at the time, presided at the head of the Company's revenue-department in this district, whose conduct encouraged the first opposition that was made. But, as my adversaries seem to doubt their success in the actions they have already made advances towards an accommodation with me, by offering six hundred rupees, if I will let them drop the suit, and not pursue my remedy against them for the injury I, and all my servants, sustained by the transaction. I shall certainly not accept of such an offer, because I earnestly wish for a publication of the affair, as well for my own justification, in the eyes of the world, as for the making known the conduct and proceedings of my adversaries.

It will readily occur to you, in perusing the narrative, that there were several reasons for the opposition made to the execution of the process which gave birth to the transaction. *The first reason for it, may naturally be attributed to the fear of a discovery of the murder of Kbyroo Pike, of which there is little doubt; the next is, the desire to maintain the independence of the Fowzdany (or Nezamat) people, and keep them exempt from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; and the third is, the necessity which they hold themselves under of acting in conformity to the will of the Provincial Council of the Company.* As the narrative will be fully authenticated by the evidence on the trial, in every particular, I need not hesitate to say, that the whole of the affair which occasioned the first action, and the fate of the unfortunate complainant, is a melancholy and serious thing; the discovery of which, would undoubtedly endanger the lives of the Plaintiff, Syed Ally, and all his attendants present with him in his journey to Moorshedabad. And this is a striking proof of the infamous practices of the Fowzdany officers, who make no hesitation in putting an end to the life of any person that may happen to complain of their
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proceedings. No wonder, then, that they should object to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. As to the encouragement given by the gentlemen of the Company's service, in the Provincial, or Revenue Council, it is notorious, that they have, and still do, exert every nerve to frustrate the advancement of justice. A late Chief here, (Mr. Charles William Boughton Rous) was so imprudent as to tell one of the Founders, who applied to him to know what regard he ought to pay to the process of the Court, that he ought to fear the process, and give the officer who should serve it on him a drubbing, for daring to serve it. Of this fact, affidavit has been made before me; and, as it will appear in evidence, I make no scruple in saying, that this, and such like encouragement, induced the people to make the resistance. It is natural for it to be asked, how such a conduct as this, happened to be adopted? and it is easy to answer, that the truth of the case is, there is scarcely a servant of the Company, in any appointment, but whose interest leads him to curse the day when the legislature ever interfered in the regulating East-India affairs, and set up a Court of Justice. But although the establishment of the Supreme Court, at Calcutta, gave very just alarm to many of the servants of the Company, who had amassed fortunes by means of their power, and who kept their power by corruption; yet, as the Court was only held at Calcutta, the subordinate factories, although they were subject to the jurisdiction, were still looked upon, in a great measure, as free from the restraining power of law, because they were not under the eye of justice, and as it was easy for the Council, at those factories, to keep so entire a controul over the whole provinces round them, that the Supreme Court was rendered of but small effect in checking the enormities prevalent there, the Chief and Council, at those factories, had only to avoid the most open violations, and they were secure of any harm from every other. But this security, in time, was disturbed, for the appointment of Masters Extraordinary, by the Court, to reside at these subordinate factories, gave so free a commu-

communication, and so clear a passage to justice, that they began to apprehend themselves to be almost in as bad a situation as those who were under the eye of the Court. And although the summary proceedings of the Council and servants of the Company, in revenue matters, had been allowed by the Court, yet they very much apprehended, that it could not be practised but in the most justifiable cases; and that, in any other cases, it could not be suffered. But, besides this barrier against the accumulation of wealth by extortionary proceedings, the sending an officer of the Court to the factories, stood greatly in the way of the interest of the Company's servants; in that it was drawing off the natives from the fixed notion of the omnipotence of the decrees of the Council in their judicial proceedings, as country courts, for the civil administration of justice amongst the natives of each district. This was, formerly, a fine field for gathering up money in; many instances having been known, where both parties, plaintiffs as well as defendants, have given half the amount of the matter in dispute, to get a decree of one of these Courts; and the party against whom such decree happened to pass, must put up with the loss of his bribe, as well as the loss of his cause, unless he happened to be rich enough to give a further bribe for the staying the execution of the decree against him.

These practices are not by much so frequent as formerly: and by the residence of a Master Extraordinary, to whom the party aggrieved by such practices may apply, and institute his suit in the Supreme Court, these proceedings have been greatly deterred. Indeed, in all cases, the high esteem and reverence that the Natives have for the Supreme Court, make them anxious to have every cause, in which they are concerned, brought into it, and there determined; unless one of the parties happens to be infamously wrong: and then that party will by much prefer the Country Courts, especially if he happens to have enough money to go on with the suit to advantage; or if the matter in dispute is of worth enough to enable him to go on with

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certainty of profit, if he can by any means obtain a decision, he will even borrow money to purchase a decree; that is, when the party happens to be clear of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, for otherwise they will not venture to purchase it, knowing that the practice will be detected. But these however are only some of the many reasons which it may be supposed the Company's servants in general, and those at the subordinate factories, in particular, have for opposing the officers of the Court in every thing they can.

On my first arrival here, as a Master Extraordinary, the members of the Council wrote two letters of complaint against me to the Governor and Council; which, as it shews their temper in very strong colours, I herewith send copies for your perusal. They were sent to me by Mr. Justice Hyde, who received them from the Governor and Council, with a letter to him from them, saying, "that as I was mentioned in them, they deemed it a mark of their respect to him, as well as of justice to me, to communicate them to him." He did not think it proper to make any formal examination into the matters alledged, as "imputations of acts of misconduct;" but as he knew the truth of every part of the circumstances mentioned, he sent the Letters to me; and said he might perhaps in a private capacity shew my answer, if I would prepare it, to some of the members of the Supreme Council. I accordingly wrote the answer, of which I send you a copy also. I need not comment on their letters: they shew themselves too plain to need any commentary. But this I may add, that they convey the truest representation of the behaviour of all the Company's servants that can be.

The behaviour of the Company's servants, the Provincial Council on the rescue of Jaggomant Dewan, is another picture of their dispositions; and shews the necessity of supporting the dignity of the Supreme Court, in order to render the intention of the legislature in establishing a Court of Justice effectual.

The letter sent first by all the members of the Provincial Council to me, is nothing better than an impudent threat to deter me from executing the Process of the Court; and does very ill become them as British subjects, who are bound by their allegiance and duty to assist the officers of justice in executing the laws. But the ill policy of their supporting the Nabob's independence (as it is called) is notorious: for by so doing, they strengthen the hands of their enemy, instead of keeping him abject, and within their power. But I ought not to speak of the Nabob, for he is a mere puppet of the Company's. He is a mercenary employed by them for the managing a certain part of their revenues, which they distinguish by the appellation of Revenues of Government, meaning the Country Government. But in fact there is no such thing as a Country Government, the English Company being the sole masters and managers of all the country: for the Nabob is a servant, in every sense of the word, of the Company. He receives a salary from the Company; the people who are employed by him receive salaries from the Company; and both he and them are continually employed in the service of the Company. The officers of the Country Courts, who preside in them, and hear criminal complaints, these are called the Negamut people, and pretend to derive their authority from the Nabob: but it is a mere pretence; for the Nabob does not even appoint, or appear to appoint them; they are appointed by the Governor and Council of the English East-India Company; from the Company they receive their orders; by the Company they are removed; and, in short, they are as much servants of the Company as servants can be. Both in the Courts of Justice, and in the management of the Revenue, (the issues of which are all paid to the Company) the Seapoys and all the people employed are the Company's. The Nabob himself has not a single Seapoy of his own: he is allowed a certain number to keep up his rank, and for the purpose of transacting the business which the Company choose to assign him; but he has not the smallest pretence to independence.

He is only kept up as a pretence for admitting a double government, which would tend to defeat the very intention of the act of Parliament in redressing the grievances that have been so much complained of here, and which were proved in England previous to the forming the regulations.

I should apologize for troubling you with these loose thoughts, if I thought your goodness would not prompt you to impute them to no intention of being troublesome: but as I wished much to communicate to you what I thought would be agreeable to you as an admirer of political subjects; and as the case I send, and the remarks, though carelessly made, contain something that will tend to inform you of the state of affairs in this country, I hope you will excuse my concluding this letter without entering upon any other subject, that you may make what use of the whole you may think proper.

I am your's,

S. P E A T.

CASE.

It is only regretted that the Government
which would not be least the very intention of the Act of 1817
is not in reducing the Government that have been in effect explained
of here and which were proved in England previous to the passing
the regulations.

I should apologize for troubling you with these long letters, if
I thought your goodness would not prompt you to answer them to
no intention of being troublesome; but as I wished much to com-
municate to you what I thought would be agreeable to you as an ad-
mirer of political subjects; and as the case I found and the remarks
though carefully made, contain something that will tend to inform
you of the state of affairs in this country, I hope you will excuse my
concluding this letter without entering upon any other subject, that
you may make what use of the whole you may think proper.

I am yours,

S. P. A. T.

CASE

C A S E.

IN order to state the case clearly, and to give an insight into some material parts of the transactions, it will be necessary to begin the relation with the first proceedings in the original action in which the Process issued against Jaggernaut Dewan, the execution whereof gave rise to this Cause.

About the 15th day of *May*, 1777, Khyroo Pike, the plaintiff in the original action against Jaggernaut Dewan, appeared before Mirza Moshin Fouzdar, having been summoned to answer to a complaint exhibited against him by Budder Sing for an assault. The Fouzdar, on examination, found the charge quite groundless. It appeared that Budder Sing had entered the house of a Man named Mulka, at Cog-marree, in the Dacca District, and finding his wife (who was reckoned very handsome) at home alone, he attempted to commit a rape upon her; but her cries being heard by Khyroo, who was Chokedar, or Watchman of that village, he, and several others with him, went into the house, where Budder Sing was found endeavouring to accomplish his brutal intentions. Khyroo, moved with pity at the poor woman's cries, immediately seized Budder Sing, and carried him to the Jumladarry Cutcherry of the Purgumali.

The next morning, the officer of the Cutcherry examined into the circumstances; and finding the clearest evidence of the criminality of Budder Sing, to prevent further proceedings, he advised the parties to make it up: he recommended to Budder Sing to reconcile the husband of the woman; and the husband he advised to drop further notice of the matter; because Budder Sing was in the service of the

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Nabob,

Nabob, and therefore he could not get any thing by pursuing his complaint. The affair was by these means dropt at that time.

Budder Sing, in his complaint to Mirza Moshin, Fouzdar at Dacca, said, he did not enter the house of Mulka by force, but that the woman had invited him to come in to her; and that therefore Kyrhoo ought not to have assaulted him. But the evidence and all the circumstances of the complaint being quite against this assertion, the Fouzdar dismissed the cause; and at the same time observed to the complainant, " that if the woman had invited him in, she would not have disturbed the village by her cries afterwards."

The complainant being dismissed, Khyroo went to the house of an acquaintance at Dacca, to wait for an opportunity of going home in the first returned boat that should go that way. He waited here until the 2d day of June, when he was sent for by Jaggernaut Dewan, the Deputy Fouzdar; who immediately ordered heavy irons to be put on his, Khyroo's legs, and *detained him in his house two days, using him with great cruelty*, after which he *delivered him over* to the custody of Budder Sing, who took him to his own habitation at Dacca, with the irons still on his legs, and there kept him close confined; and by beating and ill treatment had almost put an end to his life. When a writ of *Habeas Corpus* having issued on affidavit of these facts, returnable immediately, it was served on Budder Sing. A day or two after it was served, Khyroo Pike was removed from the custody of Budder Sing, and delivered to one Nazeer Nurreedy. In the meantime, the action was commenced against Jaggernaut Dewan. Khyroo remained for several days in the custody of Nazeer Nurreedy. After which, Syed Ally Khawn, the Head Fouzdar at Dacca, set off from Dacca to Moorshedabad, and took Khyroo Pike, loaded with heavy irons on his feet and legs, in the custody of Budder Sing and two Seapoys, and several Peons of Syed Ally's: a few days journey from Dacca, the boat in which Khyroo was, and Syed Ally's Budgerow came to at night near together. Khyroo was on board the boat in
irons.

irons. Syed Ally that night ordered all his Peons, who were with the two Seapoys in the same boat with Khyroo, to quit that boat and go into his Budgerow; and at the same time sent a man, who was a headman among his Peons, called a Dhaleat-his-nan Hazeel Khawn, to watch Khyroo with the two Seapoys: the two Seapoys called to the Mangee to watch Khyroo; for that they could not watch night and day. The Mangee echoed the complaint to Syed Ally in his Budgerow; who said the Seapoys and his Dhaleat must watch, for it was their business. The Dhaleat and Khyroo were near the same part of the boat; and the Seapoys being fatigued, in the dead of the night fell asleep for a short time; and although Khyroo had very heavy irons on his legs, they missed him when they awoke. The Dhaleat was as ignorant as the Seapoys, who had been asleep, about the escape. The next morning, the Seapoys and Dhaleat told Syder Ally that Khyroo had ran away; the people seemed all surprized, but Syed Ally never sent to try to find him, although, as he had irons on his legs, he could not have ran far. The Seapoys had a gentle reprimand, and the unfortunate runaway has never been heard of since. This was about the latter end of July, or the beginning of August, 1777. Khyroo's relations have made diligent search after him, but without effect; and now have given over all thoughts of ever seeing him more.

On the 20th of September, the warrant of the Sheriff against Jagernaut Dewan, in the action commenced for the trespass, assault, and false imprisonment, came, by the post, to Mr. Peat, one of the defendants in this cause; then the agent of the Sheriff at Dacca, who, as usual, when writs came from the Sheriff, enquired where the defendant lived, in order to deliver it to the Sheriff's officers to execute it; and being told that Jagernaut Dewan was in Dacca, he delivered the Sheriff's warrant to his Bannyan; he immediately delivered it to the other defendant in this cause, who is commonly called Doondy Jamutdar, but whose real name is Aulad-
oolah.

doolah, and who was so named, as the Sheriff's bailiff, in that warrant; and, at the same time, told him it was a warrant of the Sheriff to arrest Jaggernaut Dewan; and gave him the usual instructions to execute it: on receiving of which, Doondy, and three persons who were named in the warrant with him, as Bailiffs of the Sheriff, took the warrant and went to arrest Jaggernaut; they heard that he was in the house of Syed Ally, where the office, in which he was employed, is always held, they therefore went thither; and the doors being open, and many people passing in and out, Doondy and the three other Bailiffs walked in, and found Jaggernaut; with a great number of people, sitting in the public room called Cutcherry; Syed Ally was also there. Doondy went up to Jaggernaut Dewan and touched him on the shoulder with the writ, and shewed it to Jaggernaut Dewan, and told him, in the Bengal language, that he arrested him, and that he was his prisoner; Jaggernaut immediately desired Doondy to sit down a little time; he did sit down for some minutes; and then said to Jaggernaut, that he would not wait any longer. Jaggernaut then said, he would not mind the warrant, for that he was an officer of the Nazamut, and not a Company's servant, nor amenable to the Supreme Court; Syed Ally said the same, and called out for some Seapoys and his Choopdars and Peons (of whom there were a great number there) and ordered them to seize, and beat Doondy and the other Bailiffs, and put them into the Seapoys' guard. Doondy, and the other Bailiffs, laid hold again of Jaggernaut Dewan; Syed Ally called out again, very loud, to the Seapoys and Peons who were attending, and told them to seize and beat the Bailiffs; the Peons and Seapoys then fell on Doondy and the other Bailiffs, and beat them most cruelly, and made them quit their hold of Jaggernaut. The Seapoys beat them with the but ends of their musquets, the Choopdars, with their silver sticks, and the Peons with their filts and sticks, or such other weapons as came to hand. Doondy repeated, that he was the Sheriff's officer, or an officer of the Supreme Court, and called out for mercy; they

they paid no regard to his cries; but still continued beating him, and dragged him into the guard-room. One Ramautullah, a Peon, who knew Doondy, happened to be there; to him Doondy called, and desired him to run and tell Mr. Peat of these proceedings; the Peon did so; and said, that Doondy and the other Bailiffs had arrested Jaggernaut Dewan; and that Syed Ally's Peons, and all his people, had set upon them, and beat them so, that they could hardly stand. Mr. Peat, on hearing this, enquired of the Peon, particularly, whether he was sure Jaggernaut had been arrested; and whether the people would not let the Bailiffs take him away? the Peon answered, that he had been arrested; and that they would not let them bring him away; and repeated, how much the Bailiffs were beaten. Mr. Peat then sent his own servants, and told them to assist the Sheriff's officers, and help them to secure Jaggernaut. He, after that, waited a long time, an hour or more, in expectation of hearing something more, and sent several messengers to see what was doing; but hearing nothing, he apprehended that his servants had also been overcome, and seized (and he happened to guess right): he, therefore, went, supposing the presence of an European might occasion them to desist from further opposition to the execution of the process; and with intent to give what assistance he could to the Bailiffs to prevent a rescue, which all the King's subjects are bound, by law, to do. Not knowing, however, what lengths the opposers might go, with their violence and outrages, he thought it prudent for his personal safety, to take a pair of pistols with him, and a scymetar. Mr. Peat, in his way to Syed Ally's house, where this violence had been committed, met a messenger, who told him, that Doondy, the other Bailiffs, and all the servants whom he had sent to assist the Bailiffs, were seized and confined by Syed Ally's orders; that the Sheriff's officers stickle had been taken from them immediately on the return of a messenger from Mr. Rous; that the Sheriff's officers, and also Mr. Peat's servants, were beaten very much; and that Doondy was almost

with the beatings he had received; another messenger met him also, and confirmed this account; and, after that, another, who added, that it was believed some of Mr. Peat's servants were quite dead.

When Mr. Peat arrived at the house of Syed Ally, he enquired whether the Bailiffs and Jaggernaut were in that house, and if his servants were in it; and being told they were, he desired the door to be opened, which in a short time after was done. The door had been fastened by a chain in the inside, which some of the people unfastened, and the door then opened. Mr. Peat got out of his Palanquin at the door, and went into the gateway of the house, where he saw five or six Seapoys standing. Mr. Peat offered to walk past them quietly, but one of them stopt him, handled his firelock, and prepared to attack him. At the same time the head man of the Seapoys, who is called Hurry Nyake, advanced without a market to Mr. Peat, as if to enquire what Mr. Peat's business was there. Mr. Peat asked him why he would not give up Jaggernaut Dewan, and by whose orders he acted. He replied, he had no orders from any person. Mr. Peat then told him to give up Jaggernaut Dewan to the officer of the Supreme Court. This he positively refused. He asked him again to deliver up Jaggernaut to the Sheriff's man, the officer of the Supreme Court. He again refused.

While this passed, an elderly man, who it is said is the father of Syed Ally, came up to Mr. Peat, who was standing still in the entrance of the gate, and jostled Mr. Peat, and seemed very angry. Mr. Peat told him to be quiet two or three times; but he still continued making a great noise. Mr. Peat then, believing him to be a friend of Jaggernaut, asked him to deliver up Jaggernaut; but this he refused, and then came nearer to Mr. Peat, who told him again to be quiet. At this instant, Meer Hossain came up to Mr. Peat with a shield on his left arm, and a drawn broad sword in his right hand, which he immediately lifted up to strike Mr. Peat. Mr. Peat was standing with his scymitar in its scabbard, it not having been drawn

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at all, and being under his left arm; and in his right hand he held the pair of pistols hanging down with the muzzles toward the ground, and upon the half-cock only; on seeing the sword uplifted, and aimed at his head, he stepped back instantly, to avoid the blow: at the same instant one of Mr. Peat's servants (named Gunga) then present; seeing Meer Hossain aiming with the drawn sword at his master's head, he clasped Meer Hossain round the middle, and held him from advancing further. After Mr. Peat had stepped back, he was not able to get out of the gate, for the croud of people who had knocked his scymetar from under his arm, and Meer Hossain had disengaged himself from the servant who had held him on his first assault, when Mr. Peat, fortunately for him, had the presence of mind to put one of the pistols on full cock, and seeing Meer Hossain with his drawn sword advancing to him again, and several others of Jaggernaut's party drawing their swords, the alternative was either to stand still to be cut to pieces, or to defend himself; there was but little time to consider. Duty and self-preservation determined him.

As the Seapoys still would not deliver up Jaggernaut, Mr. Peat went to the house of Mr. Rous, the Revenue Chief at Dacca, to request his assistance: Doondy and the other Bailiffs, and Mr. Peat's servants went thither with him. When he arrived at Mr. Rous's house, the Seapoys stationed at his door stopp'd Mr. Peat's Palanquin, and told him that Mr. Rous had given orders not to admit him. He then went to Mr. Shakespear, the next Revenue Counsellor, and he found he was out of town. He then went to Mr. Hurst's, the Commercial Chief; he was also out of town. Mr. Peat therefore went home, and wrote a note to Mr. Rous, telling him what had happened, and requesting his assistance to retake Jaggernaut Dewan. This Mr. Rous treated with the same impropriety he had treated Mr. Peat himself. Mr. Peat also sent a note of the same purport as that to Mr. Rous, directed to Captain Cowe, who was the commandant of the military at Dacca. Captain Cowe very obligingly waited on Mr.

Peat in consequence of it, and afterwards, at Mr. Peat's request, waited on Mr. Rous, to get his permission to send a guard to Mr. Peat. Mr. Rous with very great alacrity granted a guard for Mr. Peat's person, and also at night gave Captain Gowe permission to send ten Seapoys to assist in retaking Jaggernaut Dewan; but he very providently at the same time sent to Syed Ally a reinforcement of fifty Seapoys, which, with eighty that is the number the Fouzdar (Syed Ally) usually is allowed by the Company, made an hundred and thirty soldiers; these were sent to keep the peace, which, it is supposed, the Plaintiff's evidence will have permission to acknowledge. This being the case, and it being night when the ten Seapoys were granted to assist in retaking Jaggernaut, Mr. Peat did not advise Doudy to attempt to retake him.

Two days afterwards, it being Monday, September 22d, Mr. Peat heard that Jaggernaut Dewan was at the house of Mr. Rous, the Provincial Chief. Mr. Peat therefore wrote another note to Mr. Rous, and signed it with the addition of "Deputy Sheriff," requesting Mr. Rous to deliver up Jaggernaut. [Sec No. I.] Mr. Rous, it seems, was in Council at the time this note was sent. A letter came soon after to Mr. Peat, signed by all the Members of the Provincial Council, [No. II.] which it appears, by the wording of it, was intended as an answer to the letter sent to Mr. Rous, on the day the rescue was made; but which in reality was written after Mr. Peat's last letter had been received by Mr. Rous; and this is seemingly confirmed by the short note [No. III.] which they sent immediately after it, saying that their answer was anticipated in the other letter. They say that Jaggernaut had surrendered himself up to them; that he did not think himself amenable to the Supreme Court; and in that they apprehended he was guided by the order of his superiors; they say they could not learn that he was arrested, but that they hold themselves answerable to produce Jaggernaut when required, and request that nothing further at that time may be done.

Mr.

Mr. Peat's answer [No. IV.] occasioned a reply, [No. V.] that Jaggernaut would swear that he never stained or saw the warrant; and that he would make affidavit to that effect; but, nevertheless, if Mr. Peat could furnish him with another copy of the writ *actually* issued, he would provide bail. Mr. Peat declined this, to be sure. [No. VI.] In the evening after this, Messrs. Shakespear and Hollond, two of the Members of the Provincial Council, came to Mr. Peat, and put several questions to him, which he answered; for which questions and answers see No. VII. They pressed very much for Mr. Peat to give a positive answer to the question, whether the Process would be pursued, if bail was not given for him. Mr. Peat did not think it proper to declare positively: but said, if he could take him without resistance, that is, he meant without havock and violent bloodshed, he should think it his duty. They wished also that Jaggernaut might be allowed to plead to the jurisdiction, if he surrendered, or gave bail. This, as they were not acquainted with law, or the practice of regular courts of justice, was a reservation on the part of Jaggernaut very natural for them to make, that he might have an opportunity of confirming the first reason he urged against obeying the Process, and of proving his independance on them or on the Company: but as this is a privilege allowed of course, as soon as they knew it, they sent for Jaggernaut Dewan, and surrendered him; and immediately offered themselves to be his bail. They were accepted instantly; and they, Messrs. Shakespear and Hollond, with Jaggernaut Dewan, executed the bail bond. After the bail bond was executed, they asked Mr. Peat to give directions that the Sheriff's officers, or others, might not molest him. Mr. Peat told Mr. Shakespear he believed it was unnecessary; but that he would tell his servants not to hinder Jaggernaut from going away; and he did so immediately, in the presence of Messrs. Shakespear and Hollond. Mr. Shakespear, after the questions before-mentioned were put to Mr. Peat, after he had declined to swear Jaggernaut

to his denial of the arrest or having seen the warrant, told Mr. Peat that they would *protest* against him for damages. Mr. Peat did not clearly comprehend the phrase, and apologized for his defective understanding: but Mr. Shakespear gave no other explanation than, after hesitating some time, repeating, "We shall protest against you; that is all."

The next day a man brought to Mr. Peat a paper, [No. IX.] which he said he was ordered by Mr. Rous to publish. The Peon who brought, waited, as is usual when written public notices are handed about, to receive it back. Mr. Peat however kept it long enough to have a copy taken of it, as it appeared to be of a very extraordinary nature, and such as he apprehended might be considered as a contempt of the Court. It was signed in Persian with the name of Jaggernaut Dewan.

The further reasons for Mr. Peat's refusing to swear Jaggernaut Dewan, which he did not think proper to give the gentlemen of the Provincial Council, (should it be proper to state them) are contained in No. VIII.

NUMBER I.

S I R,

I HAVE information that Jaggernaut Dewan is now at your house; it therefore behoves me, as Deputy Sheriff, to request you to deliver him up to me, having been arrested on Process issuing out of the Supreme Court, and rescued on Saturday last. I hope, Sir, you will think it right so to do.

I am, Sir,

Sept. 22, 1777.

your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

S. P. Deputy Sheriff.

To Chs. Wm. Boughton Rous, Esq.

No. II.

No. II.

*To Mr. Peat.***SIR,**

JAGGERNAUT DEWAN, the person mentioned in your letter to the Chief, has this day surrendered himself to us. He positively denies having seen any Writ of the Supreme Court; so that if there was no arrest, there could be no rescue; nor can we learn, either from himself, or from any other person, what suit has been instituted against him. Being a servant of the Negamut, he denies the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; and we apprehend he is therein guided by the orders of his superiors. He has tendered us security, if required, to appear before any of the Country Courts. We, on our parts, will deposit with you any sum you shall specify, to answer the demand against him, if he is hereafter adjudged liable to the jurisdiction.

A vague report has this instant reached us, that a number of Matchlock men are stationed in some part of the city, to seize Jaggernaut upon his return from hence. By the stations we hold, we consider ourselves bound to take every possible measure for maintaining the peace of the city and of the province.

We are exceedingly concerned at the tumult which arose on Saturday last, and the unfortunate consequences which followed. From a sincere desire to obviate the possibility of further mischief and bloodshed, we think it necessary to mention to you that Jaggernaut is a principal servant in the provincial Fouzdarry Adawlut; that the Fouzdar has at all times had a considerable military force at his command, and that both the Fouzdarry officers and this force are intirely independent of our authority.

As

As this accident will probably give rise to a discussion which must publicly decide upon the jurisdictions of the different courts; and it would be unfortunate that individuals should suffer where no trespass is intended, and only a public question agitated to be decided by higher powers; we, holding ourselves answerable to produce the person of Jaggernaut whenever he may be required, do wish and request that no further process may be made, or measures taken, till both you and we can receive the orders of our respective superiors. At present, the criminal jurisdiction of the City is at a stand.

We request to be favoured with your answer before the Council breaks up, and whilst the Fouzdar is with us.

We are, Sir,

your most obedient servants,

(Signed)

C. W. BOUGHTON ROUS,

J. HOGARTH,

J. SHAKESPEAR,

W. HOLLOND.

Dacca, Sept. 22,

1777.

S I R,

To Mr. Peat.

JUST before we had finished the letter this instant dispatched to you, our Chief received your note requiring the delivery of Jaggernaut; to which we flatter ourselves you will find a sufficient answer anticipated in that letter.

We are, Sir,

your most obedient servants,

(Signed)

C. W. BOUGHTON ROUS,

J. HOGARTH,

J. SHAKESPEAR,

Wm. HOLLOND.

Dacca, Sept. 22,

1777.

*To Charles William Boughton Rous, John Hogarth, John Shakespear,
and William Hollond, Esquires, members of the Provincial Council at
Dacca.*

Gentlemen,

I HAVE been favoured with your two letters; and, as you request an answer, I beg leave to acquaint you, that I have not the least doubt that the legal arrest of Jaggernaut Dewan, and also his contemptuous tearing the writ which authorized that arrest, and the rescue which was effected afterwards, notwithstanding all my efforts to prevent it, will all be fully and satisfactorily proved at a proper time and place.

If Jaggernaut Dewan was not thought an object of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, by the Judge of that Court who ordered the writ to issue against him, the order for issuing the writ would not have been given, nor could the writ issue; and the resisting or consenting to resistance, being made to the execution of the process issued out of his Majesty's Court, is an offence of a very high nature. I cannot accept of any other security than what the writ authorizes me to take; which, in this case, must be by the bond of the defendant himself, and two other responsible persons, in the sum of ten thousand rupees. The action is not for a debt; it is for an enormous personal wrong. It is the duty of the Sheriff to execute the process of the Court, whether such process is right or not; and if the defendant is not in the jurisdiction of the Court, he should plead it; and not resist the execution of the process, or endeavour to escape. I know nothing of any armed men being placed in any part of the city, for any purpose whatsoever. And I beg leave to assure the Board, that I have not, nor shall I take any steps, or adopt any measures in executing any part of the business incumbent upon me, in my station to

G

transact,

transact, but what I know to be lawful and right. And further, I beg leave to acquaint the Board, that in case, at any time, it should be proper to request their assistance in executing any process from the Court, the surest way to preserve the peace of this city (which the Board expresses itself so much concerned for) will, I presume, be to grant such assistance without delay; and as the military force under the Fouzdar are the forces of the Company, the Gentlemen at the board will, I hope, think proper to acquaint the Fouzdar, that such military forces should not be employed in resisting legal authority, as they very improperly did, on Saturday last, during the rescue of Jagernaut Dewan,

I am,

Gentlemen,

your most obedient,

and humble Servant,

Dacca, Sept. 22,

(Signed)

S. P E A T,

Sheriff's Deputy.

1777.

No. V.

Dacca, Sept. 21, 1777, half past four.

S I R,

JAGGERNAUT being apprized of the first paragraph of your letter, which has just reached us, persists in declaring, that he never once touched, or saw the warrant; nor knows who is the complainant against him, nor the subject of the complaint; and is ready to make affidavit to that effect, before yourself, if you require it; he therefore denies the arrest. Nevertheless, if you will furnish him

with

with an authenticated copy of the writ, actually issued against him, he will provide the surety required; -however, reserving to himself the power of pleading to the jurisdiction before any hearing of the charges to be laid against him.

We are, Sir,

your most obedient servants,

J. SHAKESPEAR (Signed) C. W. BOUGHTON ROUS.

J. HOGARTH.

Mr. Peat.

Wm. HOLLOND.

No. VI.

*To Charles William Boughton Rous, John Hogarth, John Shakespear,
and William Hollond, Esquires, members of the Provincial Council at
Dacca.*

Gentlemen,

I AM, this instant, favoured with your letter, dated half past four o'clock, September 21, 1777, (which, I presume, is a mistake of one day, this being the 22d day of September) In regard to what Jaggernaut says, about never seeing the warrant, I do not think it right to take any notice, being convinced of the legality of the arrest; and *his* requesting to have another copy of the writ served, is a piece of chicanery which, I am sure, you, gentlemen, do not expect me to acquiesce in.

I am,

Gentlemen,

your most obedient,

and humble servant,

Sept. 22d, 1777.

(Signed) S. PEAT.

No. VII.

Questions put to Mr. Peat, by Messrs. Shakespear and Hollond, from the Provincial Council at Dacca, with Mr. Peat's answer, September 22d, 1777.

I. The Council request to know, positively, from Mr. Peat, whether he will pursue the process if bail is not given?

Answer. I cannot positively say: If I could take him, without resistance, I should think it my duty.

II. The Council request to know, whether Mr. Peat means, by his letter to them, a refusal to take Jaggernaut's affidavit, that he never saw the warrant, or is acquainted with the name of the complainant?

Answer. I refuse, because I am a party very materially concerned; next, because I think he would be swearing to a falsehood, if he denied the arrest; being convinced that the arrest was legally made.

III. The Council request to be informed, whether Mr. Peat thinks he can legally refuse the affidavit as a Master in Chancery?

Answer. I think I can, for the reasons above assigned.

IV. The Council request to know, from Mr. Peat, whether he will accept such bail, from Jaggernaut, as may exempt him from any further pursuit of the Sheriff's officers upon the present process, and yet allow him to reserve to himself a denial of the arrest being made, and a full plea against the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court?

Answer. I will take bail in the common way, as authorized by the writ. The defendant may, of course, plead to the jurisdiction, if he chuses; and, if he objects to the arrest, he, of course, also has his remedy, without any such reservation being made in the bond.

V. In short, what are the only terms on which Mr. Peat will accept bail?

Answer.

Answer. As I have before said, in the manner I am authorized by the writ.

No. VIII.

Mr. Peat's additional reasons, which he did not think it necessary to give to the Provincial Council of Dacca for refusing to swear Jaggernaut Derwan to an affidavit, that he "never saw the writ, or was acquainted with the name of the plaintiff at whose suit he was arrested, on Saturday, Sept. 20, 1777."

I. I refused to swear him to such an affidavit, because the affidavit, I had strong reason to suppose, was not for the information of the Court, nor could be of any use in Court; nor did they inform me it was for the purpose of being used in the Court; and therefore it would have been extrajudicial.

II. Because it was publicly known, and the Sheriff's officers fully proved to my satisfaction, and will, at a proper time, prove before the Court, that the arrest was made; and as I was firmly convinced of the arrest being made, it would have been knowingly consenting to the offence of perjury.

III. Because it could only serve the purpose of supporting false assertions, and malicious charges, against the officers and others who endeavoured to prevent the rescue; and was, apparently, intended to answer the chicanery of sinister motives.

IV. Because Mr. Justice Chambers was expected daily at Dacca; and if an oath of that kind should be thought proper to be taken, he would be the most proper person to administer it; and it might be used either in Court, or out, as might be most to advantage.

No. IX.

' WHEREAS it has been declared, that a writ of the Supreme
 ' Court of Judicature, of Fort William in Bengal, was lawfully and
 ' regularly served upon me, Jaggernaut Dewan, of the Court of the
 ' Provincial Phogedar of Dacca, on Saturday the 20th day of September,
 ' One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-seven; that I was,
 ' accordingly, arrested in manner agreeable to the forms and rules required by the laws of England; and that I did treat the said writ
 ' with contempt, in tearing the same; and that I did, by violence,
 ' break from the said arrest, and effect a rescue; and whereas Mr.
 ' Samuel Peat, acting in quality of Sheriff's Deputy, did, in consequence,
 ' demand me his prisoner, which might subject me to great
 ' trouble and disgrace, or might expose my life to danger, if I should
 ' refuse to submit, as one person has already been shot by him; now,
 ' seeing that as Dewan to the Provincial Phogedar, I am servant of
 ' the Negamut, and that the servants of the Negamut are not held
 ' liable to the jurisdiction of the said Supreme Court of judicature;
 ' and that I do deny I ever tore the writ of the Supreme Court aforesaid,
 ' or ever saw it, or knew what person had complained against me, or
 ' what was the cause of suit, and did therefore go to the house of
 ' the said Samuel Peat, on Monday the 22d day of September, 1777,
 ' as to a person publicly and notoriously in the practice of administering affidavits which can be exhibited and held valid, in the said
 ' Court, requiring he should receive my oath that I never tore or saw
 ' the writ, or knew the name of the plaintiff or the subject of the suit,
 ' and he did positively refuse to administer the same, demanding from me
 ' a surety of 10,000 current Rupees, and surety was accordingly given
 ' in the sum 10,000 current Rupees, that I should appear in the
 ' said Supreme Court on or before the 22d day of October ensuing,

to answer to the suit of Khyroo Pyke, and did then, and not before, instruct his servants that I might go away without molestation.

Be it therefore known, that I do, on behalf of myself, and on behalf of the Negamut, deny and disallow the jurisdiction of the said Supreme Court, and do protest against the said Samuel Peat for all injuries, costs, and damages, which may hereafter accrue to any of the parties concerned, by reason of his several acts and deeds done in the premises. Dated at Dacca, the 23d day of September, 1777, Christian Æra.

(Signed in Persian)

JAGGERNAUT.

Copies of two Letters of Complaint written by the Council of Revenue at Dacca in Bengal, to the Governor General and Council of the East-India Company at Calcutta, against Mr. Peat, one of the Masters Extraordinary of the Supreme Court resident, at Dacca.

To the honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council at Fort-William.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

WE beg leave to transmit you herewith Copy of a Letter written by Mr. Peat to Marza Mausoom, the Fouzdar, who, in consequence, is intimidated from acting in his office; and, in this instance, is apprehensive that a warrant may be issued against him, it being reported that Mr. Ford, who is a taylor, has made application for one to the Court, through Mr. Peat. The occasion for Mr. Ford's imprisonment was as follows: He had confined and flogged a black man most cruelly, of which he made a complaint to us; as the state of his back fully attested the truth of the complaint, we sent him to Mirza Mausoom,

Mausoom, recommending it to him to take notice of this act of violence. no Mirza Mausoom therefore sent Peons to seize Mr. Ford, but this being ineffectual, he sent Scapboys, who having executed their commission, Mr. Ford was imprisoned, but released the next day by Mr. Peat. As Mirza Mausoom acts in the character of a judge in criminal cases, on the part of the Country Government, we presume he is in no wise amenable to the Supreme Court, and therefore request to to be favoured with your instructions regarding the attention he is to pay to such warrants, and his future conduct on similar occasions. We shall only observe here, that if Mr. Peat is suffered to interfere with the authority of the Fouzdarry, it will be impossible to preserve the peace and quiet of this city, and particularly to protect the inhabitants against the violence of Law Europeans. We have the honour to be, with respect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

your most obedient humble servants,

(Signed)

J. HOGARTH,

Wm. HOLLOND.

Dacca, July 7,

1777-

(True copy.)

Copy of Mr. Peat's Letter to Mirza Mausoom, Fouzdar.

APPLICATION is made to me on behalf of Mr. Ford, an European now confined in your custody, for relief against the injury he labours under by your detaining him in your custody; in consequence of which application I am to inform you, that unless you immediately release him, or give me sufficient reasons for your confining him, I shall apply to the Supreme Court for redress.

(True Copy.)

I am your humble servant,

(Signed)

S. PEAT, Attorney at Law.

(Signed) C. BURROWS, Assist. Sec.

To

*To the honourable Warren Hastings, Esq; Governor General, and
Council, at Fort William.*

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

WE have been duly honoured with your letter of the 14th instant; and, agreeably to your recommendation, have sent the man who was ill-treated by Mr. Ford, to Calcutta, with a letter to your Secretary.

We applied to you on the subject of the note written by Mr. Peat to Mirza Mausoom, as a satisfaction to him; notwithstanding we have repeatedly explained to him, as well as to the other officers of government, the nature of Mr. Peat's occupation, it has been without effect; they conceive him to be invested with powers which supersede ours; and that therefore we lessen him in our representations. Indeed, upon his arrival, he received from the natives, equal honours with the Chief; which is an evident proof, that they are impressed with an idea of his possessing an extraordinary authority.

Neither is this impression likely to decline; it being kept up with great art, in the minds of the people, by his Bannyan, by the reports he spreads, and the pomp of his palanquin and retinue; as well as by the encouragement he gives, to all persons, to apply to his master through him, by buoying them up with the hope of recovering great damages; add to this, the number of notes Mr. Peat disperses through the city and provinces; a general alarm has been spread among all the inhabitants; who consider these notes as orders to pay the sum demanded by his client not to answer to the demand. Further, as he officiates as Deputy Sheriff, it affords him an opportunity of confining such persons as are apprehended by warrants from the Court issued at his application, which confirms the inhabitants in their opinion.

nion, of his acting, in all cases, by public appointment. We have the honour to be, with respect,

Hon. Sir, and Sirs,

your very obedient servants,

Dacca, July 21, 1777.

(Signed) J. HOGARTH,
W. HOLLOND.

(True Copy)

To the Honourable Mr. Justice

Dacca, September, 25, 1777.

Honourable Sir,

I HAVE been favoured with copies of the two letters of complaint against me, written by the Provincial Council of this place, to the Governor General and Council at Calcutta; in answer to which I beg leave to inform you, that the letter wrote to Mirza Mausoom, Fouzdar, which is mentioned as the principal ground of complaint in the first of these letters, was a mere common attorney's letter; written in consequence of an application made to me on behalf of an Englishman, whose name is Ford; and who had been seized, and was then confined by the Fouzdar, under a guard of Seapoys, at the house of the Fouzdar. Before I wrote the letter to him, I was well informed of the nature of the complaint against him: it was in part, as is said in the Provincial Council's letter, for beating a boy who had been guilty of a trifling offence against Mr. Ford; for which beating, the boy had accepted of five Rupees as a compromise, and in satisfaction of the injury he had sustained. This being fully proved to me, and there appearing no just cause for the imprisonment; it seemed a very hard case that the Fouzdar should exercise such unjust

unjust authority over an Englishman, who I imagined was not at all amenable to him: I therefore wrote the letter to him, as an attorney of the court, acquainting him that I should apply on his (Mr. Ford's) behalf to the Supreme Court for redress; if he did not release him, or give some sufficient reason for detaining him.

He was detained one whole night and part of two days; and notwithstanding he often, during his confinement, requested to see the Fouzdar, and to know for what he had been seized, his doors broke open, and himself imprisoned, almost without any sustenance, he was not permitted to see him, or to know why this violence had been used.

It is said in the letter of complaint against me, that he was released by me. But the truth is, that the Fouzdar, after having Mr. Holland's directions, which he acknowledged in a Bengal letter to me, released him of his own accord; and not in consequence of any instructions from me, as I cautiously avoided saying any thing to the Fouzdar, or to any other person, that could convey the least idea of my having authority; nor have I ever said any thing to intimidate the Fouzdar in doing his duty. As the Fouzdar's acting in the "character of a judge on the part of the Country Government, and "not being amenable to the Supreme Court," it does not become me to say it is not so: although I presume the notoriety of his being being in fact a servant of the Company, receiving a salary as a servant of the Company, having Company's Seapoys under his directions, and in every instance being employed in executing the orders, or transacting business for the Company, must remove every doubt about this being an object of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. And from the late circumstances attending the arrest, and the rescue, of Jagernaut Dewan, (in endeavouring to prevent which I narrowly escaped death, and the lives of the Sheriff's officers were in imminent danger) it is evident, that if he is to be supported, as he avowedly is, by the Provincial Council here, and encouraged in opposing the execution of the process

cess of the court, it will be quite impossible for the court to exercise its jurisdiction, or preserve its dignity and independance.

In the second letter, the principal complaint is not against me in reality, but against the natives for "conceiving that I am invested with powers which supersede theirs," and "for shewing me equal honours (they say) with the Chief."

The charge has so much effeminate jealousy in it, and there is so little reason for it, that I hope, Sir, you will not think it necessary for me to enter into a full defence. I received no honours, except one visit by the Grandsons of the Nabob, Jafferet Cawn; and even this visit I did not encourage, although I had frequent opportunities of doing so. I presume, therefore, no part of my conduct in this respect can be said to arise from any intention of "impressing on the minds of the natives an idea of my being invested with extraordinary authority."

As all persons have an undoubted right to appear as they like, if their circumstances will admit of it, and as my "Banyan has never exceeded common prudence in the pomp of his Palanquin or retinue," the complaint about him, in that respect, will not bear any examination. And "the encouragement" which they say he has given to people to apply "to me by bringing them up with the hope of recovering great damages," has to my knowledge been attributed to him in many instances, where there has not been the least said about it, or the smallest ground for such charges. That many people who have been ill-treated, and enormously wronged and injured, have had such hopes; and that such hopes have been sometimes anticipated, I do not doubt; and where, through the menaces of the Council here, such people may be intimidated from pursuing their remedies in the Supreme Court, I should think it my duty to inform them, that such menaces are contempts of the Court; and that they ought not to regard them; for, if their causes are just, they will have justice. It has been always, and still is, my constant endeavour to

establish

establish a good reputation and character in my profession and station; and therefore, where I do not imagine the party applying to me does right, I never have, or shall give, any encouragement to such suitors, to proceed.

The number of notes which I disperse, as they say, are common letters of demand, written at the desire of persons who apply to me for the recovery of sums of money due, or to parties who have committed trespasses, in order to give them an opportunity of paying the money, or compromising the difference, before an action is commenced. Great numbers of notes, of this kind, were dispersed over this province long before I came here; so that the most ignorant native knows what an Attorney's letter of demand is; but, in order to prevent any misrepresentation of the effect such notes might have, (being well aware, that if it could be construed into a grievance, there would be no delay in charging me with it) I have always had all these notes of demand to natives translated, and written on one side, in the Bengal language; on the other side is written the English; and, to the English, I always sign my name, with the addition of "Attorney at Law," underneath; besides these precautions, to prevent the letters from being supposed warrants or judicial orders, they have been always written on a small piece of thin China paper, much smaller, and of so different a kind from what is used for any warrant or process, that no person can mistake them for such.

My "officiating as Deputy Sheriff," is an advantage to the natives, who have an opportunity by being allowed to stay, if they desire a little time after they are arrested, to put in bail; and prevent the inconveniences and expence of being taken to Calcutta. Besides which advantage to the natives, it is very convenient to the Sheriff, who would be obliged to employ a great number of Peons, that must be continually coming and going to and from Dacca, and increase the expences of executing process here very considerably; and also render him often liable to trouble, by the misconduct of the officers for want of some

person to direct them when any thing uncommon happens. I believe these are answers to all the charges against me; I hope, sir, you will think them sufficient; and that the whole of my conduct, in every respect, will be honoured with your approbation. I have ever endeavoured to act in a manner that could give no offence to any one; and I came here in the full persuasion, that by observing a due respect to the members of the Council, and a strict desire to avoid all controversy, their prejudice, if they have any against me, might be softened or removed; but I soon had reason to despair of this: for not being contented with using every means to "lessen" me (as they confess in their letter) in the eyes of the natives, they threatened all persons who might come to me with their displeasure; and if any persons, employed in the service of the Company, came to me, they were to be dismissed from such employment; and they have lately carried their resentment and malice still further: for they *openly encourage* people, and persuade them, *publicly to declare their denial of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court*; and on Saturday last, the 20th instant, when Jaggernaut Dewan was arrested; and while the rescue, which I have before mentioned in this letter, was attempting, men on horseback were riding backwards and forwards, to the Chief, for his orders; who, instead of giving directions to assist the Sheriff's officers, by telling the men on horseback (who came from the defendant) to submit: privately encouraged the resistance that was made against the Sheriff's officers by the defendant, the Fouzdar's people, and some Seapoys. And I am assured, that he gave orders to have the staves, which the Sheriff's officers had, taken from them and brought to him, one of which staves was accordingly taken. And, indeed, the Chief seemed tacitly to acknowledge his having encouraged the resistance; for, on my going to request his assistance to take the defendant, my palanquin was stopped, at the outer gate of his house, by a Seapoy; who told me he had his orders not to let me come in; and, on my return home, I wrote a letter to him, as Deputy Sheriff, to request his assistance; which he took no notice of.

I beg

I beg leave to inclose a copy of the declaration above alluded to, about the denial of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, it was brought to me yesterday, as a common advertisement, by a servant, who said he received it from Mr. Rous; it is signed by Jaggernaut Dewan. It is exactly of the same tenor, as Mr. Shakespear on Monday last (when he surrendered, Jaggernaut Dewan) told me, a "protest" would be, that the Council intended to make against me; I imagine, therefore, they will avow themselves the advisers of this, and not make their own protest. I am,

with due respect,

honourable Sir,

your most obedient,

and most humble servant,

(Signed)

S. PEAT.

An EXPLANATION of Bengal words and names used in the Narrative of the transactions relative to the arrest of Jaggernaut Dewan, and the rescue.

Budgerow. A vessel, in which Europeans and the superior natives travel by water.

Baryan. A principal Gentoo servant, who has the superintendence of affairs under his employer.

Chokeedar. A watchman.

Cutcherry. A court, or place for trying causes.

Gboopdars. A superior set of footmen, who carry staves covered with silver.

Dacca. A city, the capital of a province of the same name in Bengal, situate on a part of the Ganges river.

Dbaleatt. A kind of irregular soldier, fit for any mischief.

Fouzdar, or Fogedar. A superintendant of a country court.

Hircarrab. Messenger, or sort of running footman.

Jamedarr. A head man of a district.

Jamedarry Cutcherry, is the place where the head person in each district tries small offences.

Jamoutdar. A head of the Peons or principal footmen.

Mangee. A helm-man of a boat, or vessel.

Moorshedabad. A large city where the Nabob resides, situate on a branch of the river Ganges.

Nabob. A principal servant of the Mogul, under the controul of the English Company.

Nezamut. A name for country courts.

Nyake. A corporal in the military.

Peons. A sort of footmen.

Palanquin. A kind of sedan chair used very much.

Rupées Current. An imaginary coin.

Seapoys. Native soldiers.

THE END.